

CITYSOURCE



Your source for City news and information



Commemorative Poster 2015

The 2015 City of Columbia Commemorative Poster has been unveiled. Each year, an artist's work is selected to communicate the vitality and beauty of mid-Missouri and the significance of the arts. This year's poster features a painting entitled "Tribute to Blind Boone" by David Spear. "The painting is an excellent example of this artist's iconic style, with a nod to Thomas Hart Benton and a tribute to a past Columbia icon of the arts," says a member of the poster selection committee. "It weaves past and present in a whimsical way offset by the intensity of Boone's expression and the tornado. The colors, technique, and impact are truly compelling." Posters can be purchased for \$15 at Deck the Walls in Columbia Mall or at the Office of Cultural Affairs, 300 S. Providence. All proceeds support the Columbia Arts Fund.



Airport improvements

Construction on the Runway Safety Improvement project at Columbia Regional Airport is underway. The \$3.5 million project, with 90 percent of the funding from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), will provide safety enhancements at the intersection of the main runway and the crosswind runway.

This initial project will pave the way for future FAA required projects to rebuild and extend the current crosswind runway, extend the main runway from 6,400 feet to 7,400 feet and realign Rangeline Road to accommodate the main runway extension. The work is expected to be completed by late 2015 or early 2016.

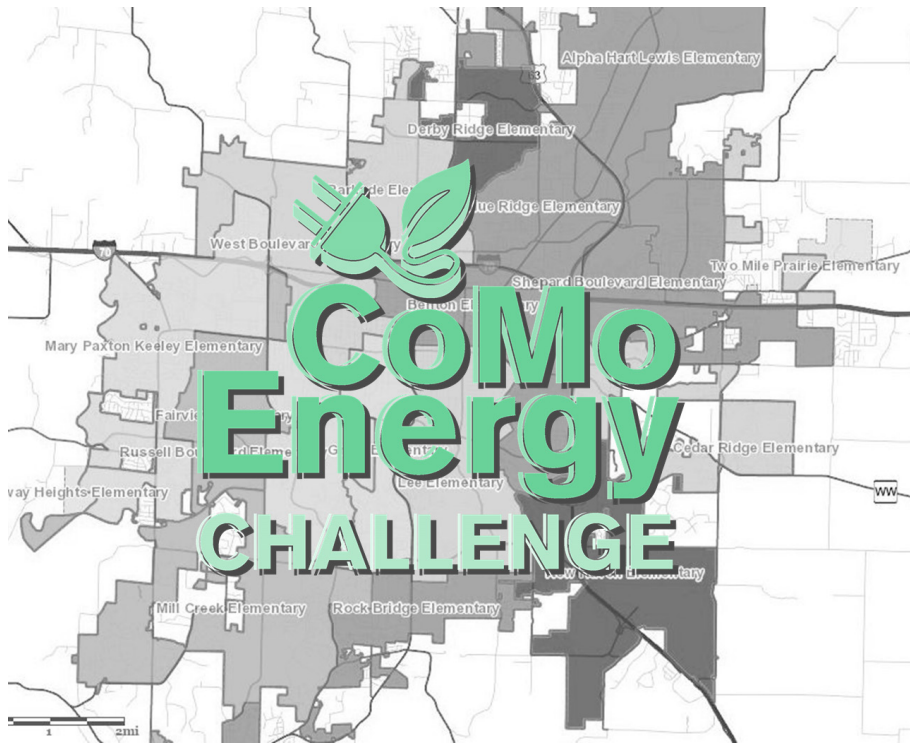


Local contractor Emery Sapp & Sons pour and finish concrete as part of the Runway Safety Improvement project at the Columbia Regional Airport.

Downtown Optimist Park gets facelift

The Downtown Optimist Park, located at 100 East Forrest Ave., has been renovated. The shelter and playground equipment have been replaced, bike racks installed, basketball court re-stripped and new walkways added.

It had been 25 years since a major renovation was done at Downtown Optimist Park. Rust was visible on the old-style metal shelter and the playground equipment was worn. The park now meets current Americans with Disabilities Act standards with a fresh new look and updated play equipment. This was one of many park projects promised and completed with funding from the 2010 Park Sales Tax.



Help your neighborhood go grEEEn!

Energy efficiency something that is normally invisible to the eye (unless you're looking at a lower utility bill) but it is now visible thanks to the CoMo Energy Challenge Community Energy Map. The map ranks Columbia neighborhoods, determined by Columbia Public Schools Elementary boundaries, by site use intensity. Site use intensity is the amount of energy you use at home, both electric and natural gas, divided by the size of your home.

It's important to know that everyone can do something to save energy at home. If your home has uneven temperatures throughout, humidity problems, or you notice higher-than-normal bills, give energy efficiency a try! Start by getting an energy assessment through the Home Performance with Energy Star program. You can get help financing the improvements with rebates and low-interest loans. For more information, go to **ColumbiaPowerPartners.com** or call 573-874-7325.

For more information, FAQs and to see the map in more detail visit **comoenergychallenge.com** and click "Map". The CoMo Energy Challenge is Columbia's campaign for the Georgetown University Energy Prize, a competition where 50 communities across the country are competing to see who can save the most energy over a two-year period.

Operation STEAL increases safety

Social activities spike in Columbia during the fall season, as does the opportunity for crimes to be committed. In efforts of protecting citizens of the City of Columbia, the Columbia Police Department (CPD) has implemented Operation STEAL: **S**uppress Crime, **T**arget Robberies, **E**liminate Noise, **A**ssist Patrol, **L**ead Columbia to Safety.

"The goal of this operation is to improve quality of life and safety in downtown Columbia and in the east campus area," said Lt. Eric Hughes.

The mission of STEAL includes protecting citizens walking from downtown into the east campus area from robberies and to handle peace disturbances in and around this area. It is an overtime operation and is in addition to regular patrols on the street. The operation began in late August and will continue through college football season. On the weekends between the hours of 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., officers will be patrolling the downtown and east campus areas in unmarked police vehicles and concentrating on peace disturbance violations, among which includes loud music. From 1 a.m. to 3 a.m., officers will be given specific assignments throughout downtown and east campus where they concentrate on preventing robberies after bars close and field interviewing individuals that match descriptions in recent robberies.

If you experience peace disturbance issues or criminal issues in your neighborhood, please contact the Columbia Police Department or make a report online at **GoColumbiaMo.com/Police**.

Expanded plastics recycling

Columbia Public Works now accepts #1 through #7 plastic containers in our recycling stream. You can now place more plastics in your blue bag for curbside pickup or in the bins at the drop off locations across town.

This month, we'll focus on #4 plastic containers. Common examples of #4 plastic containers include squeezable bottles like ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise bottles. #4 plastics are commonly recycled into trash can liners, compost bins, shipping envelopes, paneling, lumber, landscaping ties and floor tile.



**Low-Density
Polyethylene**

Parkmobile app

There is a new way to pay for parking at select meters in downtown Columbia. The Parkmobile app is available for both iPhone and Android devices.

Meters on south Ninth Street between University Avenue and Broadway, meters on University Avenue between South Ninth and Hitt Street and meters on the south side of Broadway between Ninth and 10th streets all accept payment via the Parkmobile app.

Parkmobile allows you to purchase parking in as little as 15 minute increments. And if you find yourself wanting to do some more shopping or your meeting or errands take longer than expected, simply put more time on the meter, up to the maximum allowed, with a touch through the Parkmobile app.

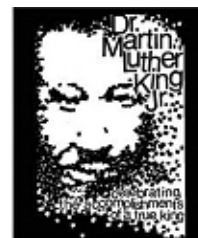
You can learn more at Parkmobile.com or at GoColumbiaMo.com and search "Parkmobile". A 45 cent convenience charge applies for each Parkmobile transaction.



Columbia Values Diversity Celebration—Student Writings Program

All students 4th-12th grade encouraged to participate

The Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Planning Committee is seeking student writings that reflect the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as we honor his legacy in our annual celebration of his life and teachings. Submissions should include the reasons why our community is rich in diversity.



Students in grades 4-12 are invited to submit their original essays and poetry for possible publication in the 2016 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Student Writings Booklet. This booklet will be distributed to over 1,000 people at the annual community celebration on Jan. 14, 2016 and published on the Diversity Celebration website.

Submission information and guidelines are available through:

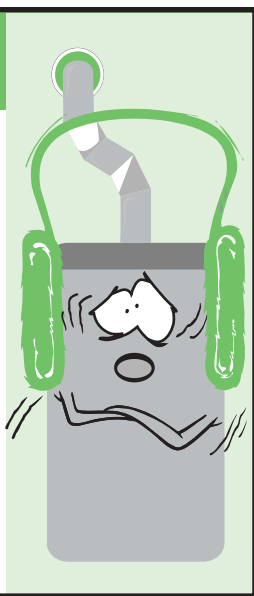
- Columbia Public Schools' teachers and principals grades 4-12
- City of Columbia's Office of Cultural Affairs: 573-874-6386, OCA@GoColumbiaMo.com or **GoColumbiaMo.com** (Search: Diversity Celebration)

The deadline for submissions is Friday, Nov. 13, 2015.

Prep your heating system for winter with a tune up

Just like a tune up for your car makes it run better, a tune up for your HVAC system will do the same. When your system is running as efficiently as possible, it will use the least amount of energy needed to keep you warm.

ComoEnergyChallenge.com
Brought to you by the CoMo Energy Challenge. Competing for \$5 million and change.



Columbia Values Diversity Awards

Help celebrate diversity in the community by nominating an individual, family, organization or group for the 19th annual Columbia Values Diversity Awards. This is a great way to show appreciation for those who have had a significant impact promoting diversity and cultural understanding.

These awards will be presented at the 23rd annual Columbia Values Diversity Celebration Jan. 14, recognizing people whose work exemplifies the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by fostering individual dignity, racial equality, understanding, peacemaking and solving problems through non-violence. Two awards will be presented: one individual/family award and one organization/group award. The deadline for nominations is Nov. 30, 2015. Nomination forms are available by calling the Office of Cultural Affairs at 573-874-6386 or on the web at GoColumbiaMo.com (search: "Diversity Celebration").

Ten year plan for roadways

In August, Columbia voters approved a 10 year continuation of a 1/4 cent capital improvement sales tax which will provide approximately \$61 million to invest in roadway and sidewalk infrastructure projects. Columbia Public Works understands the trust voters have placed in us to use these tax dollars efficiently and we will strive to do so.

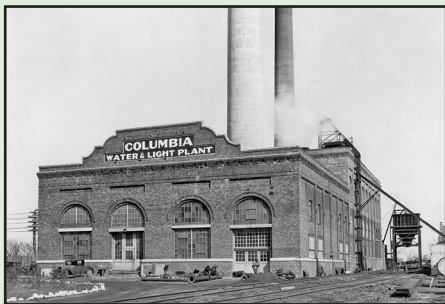
- Most of the voter approved projects will focus on maintenance of what we currently have, such as major maintenance on Garth Avenue from the Business Loop to Thurman Street, a roadway which was built in the mid-1960s and has seen a tremendous increase in traffic over the past 50 years.
- Other roadway projects include intersection improvements in the form of roundabouts at Chapel Hill and Fairview, Forum Boulevard and Green Meadows, and Vandiver Drive at Parker Street. Signalized intersection improvements are being made at Sinclair and Nifong Boulevard.
- Other projects include traffic calming, landscaping, sidewalk maintenance, brick street preservation and traffic safety projects.

The complete list of voter approved projects can be found online at: GoColumbiaMo.com/sales_tax_ballot/documents/SalesTaxProjectList2015.pdf. Thank you for your investment in Columbia's infrastructure.



Columbia Municipal Power Plant

The Columbia Municipal Power Plant on Business Loop 70, pictured here in 1927, has stopped burning coal. New coal combustion residue regulations contributed to not using coal as a fuel. The facility has two units that will still continue burning natural gas, as well as a distribution substation and a water quality lab, so the power plant will not be closed. Columbia Water & Light is exploring biomass production to produce electricity and add more renewable energy to the electric supply.



Public Power Week



Columbia Water & Light is a municipally owned utility. That means it is owned and operated by the citizens of Columbia. It was started in 1904

so residents would have a safe, reliable, low-cost source for water and electricity. Columbia Water & Light is governed by the customers through their elected City Council representatives. Rates are established by the cost to serve each customer, not to return a profit to shareholders.

Electric transmission line update

Proposed locations of the electric transmission poles on the south side of Columbia have been completed and are being reviewed. There were a number of factors that were taken into consideration when determining the location of the structures. Those factors included: working around underground utilities and where those are located, street intersection locations, easement rights and space/lengths between each pole. To see the proposed transmission pole locations, go to **Powering-Columbia.com**. Go to the map page and click on "See Route Detail."

Fall efficiency projects

Tired of being uncomfortable and paying high bills when the weather is extreme? If you add up all the hidden air leaks in your home, they can equal a hole the size of an open window. Fall is the perfect time to invest in your home's energy efficiency.

Caulk to stop leaks

- around window and door frames
- in foundation cracks
- where siding meets the foundation, roof and chimney
- outside where wires or plumbing lines meet your structure

Weatherstrip

- along the bottom of exterior doors or doors that lead to unheated areas
- on the inside of door jams

Insulate

- Attic Insulation: R-49 or approximately 14 inches
- Floor: R-19 above unheated areas
- Crawl Space Wall Insulation: R-10 with a vapor barrier
- Duct Insulation: R-13 in unheated areas
- Rim Joist Insulation: R-13

Consider our Home Performance with Energy Star program and receive up to \$1,200 in rebates for sealing air leaks, insulating your home and upgrading heating and cooling equipment. Through this program you can also receive a low-interest loan to help finance the projects. For more information, call 573-874-7325 or go to **ColumbiaPowerPartners.com**.

Pilot solar project energizes Columbia



The solar electric field on Bernadette has recently been expanded thanks to Columbia Water & Light staff members. In order to keep the cost down for this 267.8 kilowatt project, employees were trained on how to install panels. Installing a solar electric system in the ground can be a technical challenge to make sure the footing and the racks are level. The project was energized in September and the energy production will be closely monitored. A community solar project is being considered by the utility at this site. This will enable Columbia Water & Light customers to receive part of the solar energy output to power their homes and businesses. Look for more details about this project and community solar this spring.

Affordable housing

Affordable housing often tops the list of issues important for our community. The City of Columbia will be hosting an Affordable Housing Symposium event on the afternoon and evening of Dec. 3 and the morning of Dec. 4 at City Hall, 701 E. Broadway. The event will provide a forum for education, information sharing and discussion of current and future affordable housing needs. Innovative approaches to addressing affordable housing will also be discussed.

The event will feature local speakers providing presentations on current needs, energy efficiency, universal design, construction costs, poverty, financing and more. The event will include keynote presentations from experts on innovative affordable housing efforts. Keynote speakers include the Mayor of Missoula, Montana John Engen, Rick Wishcamper of Rocky Mountain Development Group and the City of Boulder, Colorado's Inclusionary Housing Program Manager, Michelle Allen. The event will also include opportunities for input to help shape the future of affordable housing efforts in Columbia. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this important event. Further details will be provided in the coming

Homeless Youth Awareness Month Dodge Ball Tournament

Columbia Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the Rainbow House to host the Annual Dodgeball Tournament in recognition of Homeless Youth Awareness Month. The event will be held at 1 p.m. on Nov. 7 at the Armory Sports Center, 701 E. Ash Street. Proceeds from the event will go toward the Rainbow House. This organization's mission is to keep children safe and support families in crisis.

There will be two flights, one for recreational and the other for competitive teams. Cost is \$50 per team. Prizes will be awarded for first place, as well as for the Best Team Name and Most Creative Uniforms. There will also be "Minute to Win It" games and door prizes.

For more information about registration, call Parks and Recreation at 573-874-7460 or the Rainbow House at 573-446-6600.

Utility customer service survey results are in

Utility Customer Service would like to thank all customers who took the time to complete the most recent customer survey about the billing office. Survey results showed that over 50 percent of customers do not know that payment arrangements may be possible if a customer needs more time to pay the bill, and that these extensions are available every month as long as they are paid by the agreed upon date. Also, almost 40 percent of those completing the survey were not aware that the billing office has extended their phone hours to 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday in an effort to reduce long wait times on hold. Along with expanding our telephone hours, the drive-thru window behind City Hall is also available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Look for future surveys online as Utility Customer Service office continues efforts to improve customer service. You may also submit ideas, suggestions, or other feedback any time by going to GoColumbiaMo.com/Feedback.

Parks & Recreation Calendar

Call 874-7460 for more information.

November

7	Homeless Youth Awareness Month Dodgeball Tournament, Armory Sports Center, 1 p.m. Register by Nov. 6, \$50 per team
11	New Leisure Times is published
22	Holiday Bazaar, Hillcrest Community Center, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
?	Did you know? The 3M Flat Branch-Hinkson Creek Wetlands can filter pollutants from an estimated 10 million gallons of stormwater runoff before it reaches local streams. This wetland project was made possible by funding from six grant agencies and the Park Sales Tax.

Smoke alarms save lives

Having working smoke alarms in your home is important and can be life-saving. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half. Almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Here's what you need to know!

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Test your smoke alarms every month.
- When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.

Code corner—safe rental houses

Did you know that all residential rental properties must be registered and inspected? Since the late 1970s, the City of Columbia has enforced the Rental Unit Conservation Law to ensure safe and healthy housing for tenants.

The law also allows a tenant to file a complaint if their landlord is not addressing maintenance issues. To learn more about rental enforcement or how to file a complaint, contact Neighborhood Services at 573-817-5050 or visit the City's website.

**HOUSE
FOR RENT**

October volunteer of the month — Guillermo Hernandez

Volunteering is a great way for young people to learn new skills, get to know their community and build character. Guillermo Hernandez, a Hickman High School student, has discovered the benefits of volunteering during two years of service with the Public Works' Stormwater Program.

Guillermo was nominated as the October Volunteer of the Month by the Public Works Stormwater Program for his efforts with education and outreach programs, community gardens, stream cleanups and other volunteer activities. Guillermo, warmly referred to as the G-Man by staff member Mike Heimos, has helped with Stormy's Meadow, a community garden that produced green beans, cucumbers, tomatoes and carrots this year. The G-Man watered the field and garden twice every day, usually with rainwater collected in a 600-gallon barrel from the roof of the shed. Guillermo has also assisted with stream cleanups and educating local children about the importance of protecting our stormwater.

The City of Columbia thanks Guillermo for his dedicated service. To find out more about volunteering with the City of Columbia, visit the City's webpage or call 573-874-7499.



Guillermo Hernandez

Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

Application deadline: Nov. 6 at 5 p.m.

- Columbia Vision Commission
- Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health
- Personnel Advisory Board

Application deadline: Dec. 4 at 5 p.m.

- Firefighters' Retirement Board
- Human Services Commission
- Police Retirement Board

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at **GoColumbiaMo.com** or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 573-874-7208 for information.

College is back in session and there's a reason to celebrate the large student population

It is that time of year, the time that I hear a lot of grumbling about the appearance of more vehicles and people in town as students return to our city. I am aware that I'm probably one of the few residents who doesn't mind the increase in traffic and long lines at the restaurants. However, have you ever wondered what Columbia would be like if there were no Mizzou, Columbia College, Stephens College or Moberly Area Community College students? How would our community feel or function?

In the destination marketing industry, university students are technically considered tourists. Removing more than \$368 million of annual visitor spending from Boone County would change our area in many ways. What kind and how many jobs would we have in Columbia? How many residents would live here with our highest employers gone? How many restaurants, golf courses, live theatres and retail shopping areas would we have?

Tourism is the foundation for all economic development. People want to live in a place they like to play. In addition to enhancing the quality of life, the tourism industry supported over 11,000 jobs locally in the state fiscal year 2014. Tourism spending during that same time period in the state of Missouri totaled more than \$11 billion. These numbers, and many more, were released in the annual report of fiscal year 2014 by the Missouri Department of Tourism.

So the next time you have to wait a few minutes for a table at your favorite restaurant or have to sit at a stop light for the Columbia "20 minute" rush hour, stop and consider the impact of that wait. The revenue generated by the increased business causing your wait is funding a friend's salary, improving your roads, providing vital city services and creating a higher quality of life for your entire family.

Amy Schneider

Director

City of Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau

The City does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

City of Columbia
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MAYOR
Bob McDavid

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	Clyde Ruffin
<i>Second Ward</i>	Michael Trapp
<i>Third Ward</i>	Karl Skala
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	Ian Thomas
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	Laura Nauser
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	Betsy Peters
<i>City Manager</i>	Mike Matthes



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